from these, a 110 minute programme on the subject is being produced by Doordarshan during the current financial year, which will be in tele-serial and documentary formats.

TV Programmes for Agriculture

†731. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to discontinue the TV programmes related to agriculture; and

(b) the number of regional broadcasting centres which are telecasting the programmes relating to agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Prasar Bharati, a statutory autonomous corporation, has informed that there is no proposal to discontinue the TV programmes related to agriculture.

(b) Prasar Bharati have informed that all Doordarshan Kendras telecast programmes on agriculture of different durations and frequency. In addition, 18 Regional Kendras namely, Ahmedabad, Thiruvananthapuram, Bhopal, Delhi, Guwahati, Srinagar, Jaipur, Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Lucknow, Patna, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jallandhar, Ranchi and Raipur are doing thematic agricultural programmes under the scheme "Mass media support to the agricultural extension" 5-days a week.

Prasar Bharati have also informed that area specific programmes are also being telecast in addition to the Regional Kendras in 36 clusters spread over 180 transmitters in the country telecasting agricultural programmes 5-days a week.

Decisions on media issues

732. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether government would take decisions on key media issues like allowing second phase of FM radio and foreign newspapers to publish from the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.